

Comparison of Basic Duties and Roles of Education Boards Established by the Florida Constitution

The Florida Constitution provides for three education boards that take effect on January 7, 2003. These boards are given broad core duties over education activities and will need to work together to provide Floridians with high quality education services. Roles and relationships will evolve in time, but the following provides a conceptual outline of how these new boards may act and interact to promote a well-articulated and coordinated system of education at all levels.

State Board of Education

Duties

- Constitutional authority for K-14 public education as provided by law
- Responsible for establishing system-wide education goals and policies
- Rulemaking and approval authority for statewide curriculum content, standards, assessment and common course numbering
- Implements state programs and policies including a K-20 accountability system and an assessment system
- Promotes articulation and creates articulation policies including policies that effect student financial aid programs
- Implements legislation regarding the powers and duties of community college boards of trustees
- Enforces education statutes and rules
- Exercises supervision of the Department of Education

Relationship to other entities

- Works collegially and cooperatively with the Board of Governors to continue to successfully implement a K-20 education system in Florida
- Provides administrative support to the Board of Governors
- Provides technical assistance, via the Department of Education, to university boards of trustees, community college boards of trustees and school boards

Statewide Board of Governors

Duties

- Constitutional authority and responsibility for managing the state university system
- Appoints five members of each university board of trustees
- Defines the mission of each university
- Establishes the powers and duties of the university boards of trustees

- Provides for articulation and coordination with public schools and community colleges
- Ensures that universities participate in statewide programs that mutually benefit them, students and the state as a whole
- Accounts for the expenditure of funds

Relationship to other entities

- Works collegially and cooperatively with the State Board of Education to continue to successfully implement a K-20 education system in Florida
- Sets powers and duties of the university boards of trustees
- Directs the university boards of trustees to participate in statewide activities and to provide required information to the Department of Education

University Boards of Trustees

Duties

- Administers each state university
- Makes policy decisions and strategic plans appropriate to the university's mission
- Selects presidents and submits to the Board of Governors for ratification
- Serves as the public body corporate for the university with all rights and duties that come with that designation
- Boards of trustees may enter into contracts and own real and personal property
- Sue, maintain, protect and control university owned and controlled buildings, equipment, trademarks and other propriety marks
- Approval of degree programs up to and including masters degrees
- Serves as the sole public employer and develops employment and personnel systems and policies
- Develops and implements policies for the award of tenure
- Develops university accountability plan
- Administers powers and duties delegated by the Board of Governors and participates in statewide education activities as determined by the Board of Governors

Relationship to other entities

- Acts in accordance with rules and guidelines of the Board of Governors and reports on performance and the expenditure of funds
- Provides required data to the Department of Education
- Participates in the K-20 performance accountability system and other statewide activities as required by the Board of Governors
- Requests and receives assistance from the Department of Education